



Annual Internal Review

This report covers the time period of 7/1/2019 to 6/30/2020

BUILDING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION

The Board/Commission mission statement is:

The Building and Standards Commission (BSC) was established to hear cases concerning alleged violations of the City's housing and dangerous building regulations.

The Building and Standards Commission shall have the powers and duties and comply with the procedures established by the Texas Local Government Code, Chapter 54, Subchapter C (*Quasi-Judicial Enforcement of Health and Safety Ordinances*), and Chapter 25-12, Article 9 (*Property Maintenance Code*) of the *Austin City Code*.

1. Describe the board's actions supporting their mission during the previous calendar year. Address all elements of the board's mission statement as provided in the relevant sections of the City Code.

- The Commission met on **8** occasions to hear cases involving substandard and unsafe or dangerous properties, and appeals.
- The Commission heard a total of **56** new cases.
- The Commission heard a total of **11** returning cases.
- Of the new and returning cases heard by the Commission, **41** or **61%** were registered with the Repeat Offender Program, of which **28** have now achieved compliance.
- Of the new and returning cases heard by the Commission, **14** were deemed dangerous by the Code Official or the Fire Division Chief.
- The Commission received updates on **19** cases.
- The Commission met as a body on **8** out of **11** monthly meeting dates during this period, with one meeting cancelled due to a posting error and two meetings cancelled due to COVID-19 concerns. The Commission also held its annual retreat in November.

2. Determine if the board's actions throughout the year comply with the mission statement.

- The Commission issued **55** repair orders, of which **30** have achieved compliance, and **2** have achieved compliance with an unpaid penalty.
- The Commission issued **2** demolition orders, neither of which has achieved compliance.
- The Commission issued **1** order for an engineer's report.
- The Commission heard **5** appeals for short-term rental licenses, all of which were denied.
- The Commission issued **5** reduced civil penalty orders.
- The Commission reduced the civil penalty to **\$0** in **21** cases.

3. List the board's goals and objectives for the new calendar year.

- Staff will coordinate a Building and Standards Commission retreat.
- Staff will prioritize Repeat Offender (ROP) cases, dangerous cases, and old cases, and will include such cases on the regular BSC agenda.
- Staff will track impact for the BSC as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.